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SUCCESSFUL LAND TREATIES

After Desperate Resistance Tactful Handling Brought Pacification.

Among the colored races with which the Anglo-Saxon people have come in contact there are few presenting so many features of interest and none showing such a remarkable advancement from savagery to civilization as the Maoris of New Zealand. The history of their encounters with the white up the country for future settlement. invader of their country, of the pacification and of how they were turned to the ways of civilization, though it extends over but a brief period, is full nish some useful information for the land question has always been a United States in dealing with the people of the Philippines. There is no record of the origin of

the Maoris. Tradition tells of their voyaging to New Zealand in canoes from some of the islands of the Pacific, and this tradition is accepted by coming being about 500 years ag.). When Tasman first sighted New Zealand in 1642, he found the natives numerous and fierce, and Captain Cook gave blood-curdling accounts of their warlike character and cannibalism as the result of his visits from 1769, to 1774. In 1809 sixty-six white persons on board the ship Boyd, which called on her way from Sydney to England, were killed and eaten by the Maoris, and in 1816 the crew of the American brig Agnes suffered a similar fate However, the Rev. Samuel Marsden took a band of missionaries to New Zealand in 1814. He secured the friendship of some of the chiefs, but was them were frightened from the coun-

THE TREATY OF WAITANGI.

The missionaries, however, continuel their work, and through their influence the active intervention of Great Britain was secured, and in 1840 the treaty of Waitangi was signed, a great event for the Maoris, who to this day regard that agreement as their Magna Charta. It contained the Maoris' declaration of allegiance to the Queen and Great Britain's recognition of the Maori ownership of the whole of New Zealand. This treaty led to a semblance of peace and the settlement of the country proceeded, but the difficulty of dealing with the natives with respect to their lands was soon apparent, and the first bloodshed after the signing of the treaty was caused by a disputed land transaction between the whites and the Maoris. The war lasted five years, peace being eventually restored by the efforts of Sir George Grey, who secured the confidence of the Maoris, dealing fairly with them, paying for their lands, setting up schools to educate their children and train them in agriculture. Throughout the war a section of Maoris had remained friendly to the English, and had fought with them against the hostile tribes. During the twelve years of peace that white settlers in New Zealand had many friends among the Maoris. But the tribes inhabiting the heart of the north island continued hostile to the British. They had been always averse to the Maoris selling their land, and they had noted with displeasure the increased power of the white men. Meetings were held and it was resolved that an attempt should be made to amalgamate all the Maori tribes under one lish out of the country. Te Where Where was chosen king, and he hoisted the Maori flag, but the movement are being gradually broken up. was unsuccessful, and to this day there has not been any union of the tribes. There is still a Maori King, but his authority is acknowledged by only a influence not to drive the English out of the country, but to secure from the English representatives in Parliament the best legislation possible for his

PACIFICATION OF THE MAORIS. The movement, however, was accom-Pastry you'll need-every morn- No sooner had this rising been quelled even without engineering assistance. ing, fresh from the oven. Saves than another section of the Maoris, MAORIS IN GOVERNMENT OF the Warkatos, were in arms, and a long and costly war followed. Sir George Grey, who had been so successful in delicious Bread, etc., it's possible the first war, arrived in 1861, but the and there were skirmishes up to 1871.

Throughout the war Sir George Grey of the race sitting in the Legislative had done much to break down the na- council. The present Minister of Native distrust of the English colonists, and at a critical time Sir Donald Mc- a half-caste, sitting for a European Lean came on the scene as minister of constituency. He is a persistent advonative affairs. During his seven years cate of the cause of the Maoris. For of office all traces of enmity were wiped the election of the four Maori members away. Sir Donald McLean understood of the House of Representatives all the Maoris. He paid respect to their Maoris over 21 years of age have a vote. chiefs and showed great tact in the At the last election there were twenty purchase of native lands. He employed candidates for the four seats, and of a a large number of Maoris on roadmak- total population of 39,854 (including ing, paying them liberally. Though children), 13,628 voted. The local gov-Stock and Bond Broker ing, paying them liberally. Though children), 13,628 voted. The local govthe Maoris have always been easily cently been left in the control of the handled when respectfully and kindly chiefs, but an act passed during the treated, and Sir Donald was ever their last session of Parliament has created friend and counselor. They had learned Maori councils with a sort of mixed



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conciliate them, while the roads opened RAPID PROGRESS OF THE NA TIVES.

There has been one, and only one, real difficulty in dealing with them. The source of trouble. It was the cause of much of the bloodshed, and has been the object of continuous negotiations ever since, but successive governments since 1870 have shown much patience and consideration with Maori land owners, and gradually prejudice has students of the race, the time of their given place to confidence, and the Maoris to their own benefit are now leasing and selling their lands freely to Europeans. The treaty of Waitang gave to the Maoris, numbering at the time 60,000 or 70,000, an absolute title to 66,000,000 acres of valuable land, and the validity of the treaty or the rights of the Maoris to the land has never been disputed.

When the treaty was signed the private purchase of native lands was stopped, the pre-emptive right of purchase from the Maoris passing to the British Government, an officer of the crown being appointed to determine the titles. This method obtained until 1862, when land courts, presided over unable to prevent wars among the dif- by able judges were set up to determine ferent Maori tribes. When the first titles and private purchases were alorganized band of British settlers ar- lowed up to 1894, when the crown again rived, ten years later, the majority of took the sole right of dealing with the Maoris. The Maoris urged that they try by the sight of a conquering tribe should have a grander voice in the discutting up and eating the bodies of its posal of their lands. After many consultations with the tribes the present Premier, the Right Hon. R. J. Seddon, has recently brought into operation the most promising land legislation yet provided for the Maoris. The whole control of the lands is vested in a board partially elected by the Maoris themselves, provision being made for the majority of the members being Maoris. The board investigates titles and has power to sell or lease land either to private individuals or to the crown, but prior to any sale the members of the board have to be satisfied that the alienating Maori retains sufficient land

for his own support. Since the treaty of Waitangi much land has passed out of the hands of the Maoris. Since 1870 the Government has spent a sum equal to \$10,000,000 in purchasing native lands in the north island, and prior to that year the whole of the south island had been disposed of by the Maori owners. There are still, however, over 10,000,000 acres owned by Maoris, of which they cultivate only about 10,000 acres.

PRESENT CONDITION OF THE MA-ORIS.

The position of the Maoris today is in many respects in striking contrast to that of a quarter of a century ago. Unfortunately their numbers are decreasfollowed the ever-increasing number of ing. There were at the last census under 40,000. The half-caste population, now over 6,000, is steadily increasing. To a considerable extent the Maoris still live in communistic fashion, each village cultivating sufficient food for its own requirements, while in their dealings with Europeans they frequently pool the proceeds for the benefit of the community. There are, however, many exceptions to this rule, and as railways are being pushed through their country and the opportunities for earning and spending money in European fashion are increased, the little communities Of the marks of improvement shown

by the Maoris there is none so distinctly prominent as the anxiety they display for the education of their children section of the Maoris, and he uses his and their instruction in the English language. There are 4,410 Maori children now atending school, many of them are receiving higher education, and a few have been graduated at the university. - There are several Maori lawyers in the colony, and the roll of the Supreme Court contains the name panied by the formation of a land of at least one Maori barrister. When league, and the old trouble in connec- well trained the Maoris make excellent tion with the purchase of native lands mechanics and they have always shown Bread, Rolls, Biscuits, Cake and led to war in the Taranaki district. a wonderful capacity for making roads,

In the last thirty years the Maoris have returned four members to the Maoris were not subdued until 1866, New Zealand House of Representatives, and they have at present two members the value of money long before the authority comprising the functions of close of the war, and the money spent policeman, magistrate and local board among them in roadmaking did much to of health.

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